

ROUND ONE: So What? (30 minutes)

The Charge:

You have had an opportunity to listen to a couple of major presentations from some nationally acclaimed education theorists. You have heard a brief recap of the major points made by these speakers. Now, you are asked to make some meaning from their work. In order to conduct this analysis, you will be asked to process some fundamental questions posed below. Please track the course of the discussion for you will be called upon to share a key finding at the end of this exercise.

Task List:

1. Small group introductions; table leader/recorder/reporter (4 minutes)
2. What is the most important element of Wagner's work? (3)
3. What is the greatest challenge with Wagner's approach? (3)
4. What is the most important element of Damon's work? (3)
5. What is the greatest challenge with Damon's approach? (3)
6. What points of intersection appear between these two reformers? (4)
7. What points of departure are apparent between these two? (4)
8. What is the most important takeaway from the discussion? (6)

ROUND TWO: Now What? (30 minutes)

The Charge:

Now that you have analyzed what Wagner and Damon have shared with us at this conference, you are asked to identify ways in which we might change our program models and/or delivery practices in our schools. Again, this exercise is structured around framing answers to some fundamental questions. Please track the course of the discussion in order to share a key recommendation at the end of Round Two.

Task List:

1. Small group introduction; table leader/recorder/reporter (2 minutes)
2. What is happening in our schools that appears to be in concert with D/W? (4)
3. What appears to be in greatest conflict? (4)
4. Based on 2 & 3, what should we do with Minnesota's schools? (5)
5. What can be done in our home districts? (5)
6. What is the role of MASA/MASE in securing this course of action? (5)
7. What are the best recommendations for action on both a local and a state level? (5)